

What is claimed is:

- [Claim 1]** A method of modulating the growth of a tumor comprising the step of contacting a target cell with a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitory substance which prevents Oct-1 mRNA function.
- [Claim 2]** The method of claim 1 wherein the inhibitory substance is a vector containing an Oct-1 antisense sequence.
- [Claim 3]** The method of claim 1 wherein the modulation of tumor growth is accomplished by contacting a target cell with an RNA inhibitor molecule.
- [Claim 4]** A method of determining the efficacy of an anti-cancer therapeutic agent comprising the steps of; providing a cell sample; contacting the cell sample with an oncoprotein; contacting the sample with the anti-cancer therapeutic agent; and assaying the sample to determine the presence of the oncoprotein binding to the cellular DNA, whereby the down-regulation of the oncoprotein binding to cellular DNA indicates the therapeutic agent possesses anti-tumorigenic properties.
- [Claim 5]** The method of claim 4 wherein the oncoprotein is Oct-1.
- [Claim 6]** A method of determining the role of a protein of interest as an oncoprotein comprising the steps of; providing a cell line which constitutively expresses the protein of interest; transfecting the cell line with a vector containing an antisense strand to the protein of interest; culturing the cell line for a predetermined amount of time; and assaying the cell for the expression of oncogenic characteristics, whereby the loss of oncogenic characteristics, as compared to control transformants, indicates the protein of interest is an oncoprotein.
- [Claim 7]** The method of claim 6 wherein the cell line is Rb-defective.
- [Claim 8]** The method of claim 6 wherein the vector is pcDNA3.